

**PROTEST AGAINST SOCIAL INJUSTICE IN  
CHARLOTTE BRONTE'S *JANE EYRE***



**A THESIS**

**Submitted as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements  
for the Completion of Getting the Postgraduate Degree  
in Language Study of English**

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2015**

## APPROVAL SHEET

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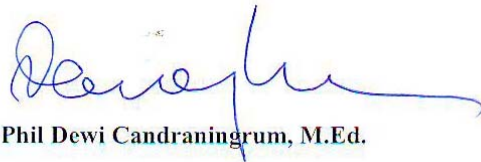
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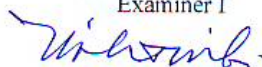
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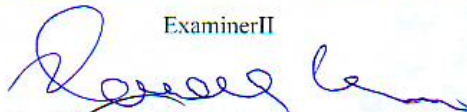
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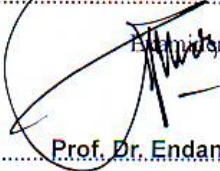
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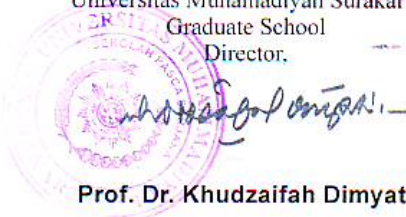
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## **MOTTO**

- ❖ Work as if you live forever and worship as though you will die tomorrow.  
(Muhammad SAW)
- ❖ The only way to do great work is to love what you do.  
(Steve Jobs)
- ❖ When you focus on problems, you will have more problems. When you focus on possibilities, you will have more opportunities. (Anonymous)
- ❖ Education is the kindling of a flame not the filling of a vessel.  
(Socrates)

## **DEDICATION**

This thesis is dedicated to:

My beloved parents

My beloved husband

My beloved sons

My friends

My students

“Thanks for the love, support, and pray”

## PRONOUNCEMENT

I am the writer of this thesis,

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BRONTE'S *JANE EYRE*

hereby certify that this thesis is definitely my own work. I am responsible for its contents. Otherwise, there are some other writers' views in this thesis but they are quoted in cited in accordance with principled standard. When there is evidence that this thesis is a kind of plagiarism, I will accept the cancellation of my postgraduate degree given by Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta.

Surakarta, 22 Oktober 2015



Sincerely,

SRI WINARSIH

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*Bismillahirrohmanirrohim*

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Finally, the researcher hopes that this thesis will be useful for her, the readers who are interesting to read it, and everyone who needs it. The constructive criticism and the suggestions are expected from the readers.

Surakarta, 22October 2015

SRI WINARSIH



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## ABSTRACT

Sri Winarsih. 2015. *Protest Against Social Injustice in Charlotte Bronte's Jane Eyre*. Thesis. Surakarta: Postgraduate Program of Language Study, Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta

Advisor : Dr. M. Thoyibi, M.S. and Dr. Phil. Dewi Candraningrum, M. Ed.

Key Words : social injustice, sociology of literature

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Novel, as one kind of fiction, facilitate a man who called an author, as a member of society and a man who is given a talent to write, to expose what in her/his mind such social problem happens in society. Here, the novel functions as both giving pleasure and benefit. He/she has chance and competence to elevate even a horrible social problem to the worthy one through aesthetic works. That is the function of literature which Rene Wellek (1978) stated: "it is probable that all art is "sweet" and "useful" to its appropriate users: that what it articulates is superior to their own self-induced reverie or reflection (p. 21).

This research aims to expose social injustice portrayed in Charlotte Bronte's *Jane Eyre* and to prove the author's protest against social injustice through the main character of this novel. This research is classified as a descriptive qualitative method. The primary data source of this research is the novel *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte (1848). This novel consists of 459 pages. The collecting data process is note-taking technique. So, this research is also categorized as library research.

Based on the investigation on social injustice in *Jane Eyre*, the researcher draws conclusions such follows. There are nine social injustices portrayed in *Jane Eyre* i.e. neglected orphan, child abuse, rigid social class relation, erroneous impression of governess, harsh school regulation, health, disease and death, fallen women, disputed bequest, and faith versus human right .

The result, the researcher found Charlotte Bronte's disapproval against the social injustice seen through the main character (*Jane Eyre*)'s views expressed in dialogues with supporting characters and narration. The disapproval promoted by the author in her struggle is to protest the social injustice and to change the dreadful conditions at that time to the better and valuable ones. It also influences the other character to care about such social injustice in the imaginary condition and revolutionize it. By applying the theory of sociology of literature, the researcher deems *Jane Eyre* is a historical document since it illustrates the evidences and happened in English society in the early nineteenth century.